IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Lars BLANK, et al.

Title: METHOD OF IMPROVING

BIOMASS YIELD OF LACTIC ACID BACTERIAL CULTURES

Appl. No.: 10/623,578

Filing Date: 7/22/2003

Examiner: Kade Ariani

Art Unit: 1651 Confirmation 6542

Number:

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant hereby petitions the Commissioner under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) for a threemonth extension of time for response in the above-identified application for the period required to make the attached response timely.

The extension fee for response within the third month is \$1,050.00.

The above-identified fees of \$1,050.00 are being paid by credit card via EFS-Web.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to

Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as bythe Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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by Yang Tang Registration No. 55,663